

Today's News - Tuesday, April 26, 2011

- White offers a two-parter comparing San Diego to Calgary: one city's focus is on being a "tourist urban playground" and the other "a corporate urban playground" (S.D. "kicks butt" on many fronts, but then, so does the other) + how the two compare as a place to live.
- New Delhi and Canberra: comparing the two capitals and how they echo each other in appearance and history.
- Ouroussoff shifts into high gear re: Denari's HL23 condo overlooking the High Line: the "building is as sleek and muscular as an Italian sports car" (and "a milestone in the career of one of the country's most underachieving talents").
- An architect comes to the defense of a Modernist/Brutalist building considered by some to be one of the ugliest buildings in Norwich, U.K. - slated for demolition: never mind its pedigree, "nobody has thought properly about how it could be reused."
- Glancey cheers the British government taking architectural education for children seriously: "how can we nurture not just the Frank Lloyd Wrights of the future but a public who will push these budding architects, rather than sniping from the sidelines that all modern buildings are terrible?" (suggestions welcome!).
- Indian architect C.N. Raghavendran has spent 40 years preaching that "architecture is about preserving that critical link between the built and the natural environment."
- Rose offers a thoughtful take on nuclear waste: "Few architects have to design anything to last more than 100 years, so how do you build a nuclear waste facility to last for millennia? And what sign do you put on the door?" + Two architects' take on the steel shell that will seal the Chernobyl nuclear reactor: "an architect would have designed something so complicated it would have leaked" vs. "what's missing is the human scale, innovative shaping and symbolism that an architect's involvement would contribute" (so who's going to get close enough to see it?!?).
- Cloud architecture: cloud computing "harnesses the potential of new capabilities like a Frank Gehry while delivering the efficiency and elegance of a Frank Lloyd Wright."
- With their new Integrated Design Lab, University of Idaho graduate students "are getting a leg up on the possibility of future employment."
- The Scottish shortlist for 2011 RIBA Awards has 17 firms vying for the Stirling.
- A good reason to head to Chicago this week: National Mayors Summit on City Design will focus on the power of art and design in city building.
- Call for entries: Archi-World Academy Awards for architecture students worldwide.

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Tourism brings life to downtown: The key lesson to be learned from comparing the urban vitality and place-making in San Diego to that of Calgary is that both cities are evolving to capitalize on their distinct climate, geography and economy...San Diego is creating a city centre that is much more of a tourist urban playground, while Calgary's is a corporate urban playground. By Richard White/Riddell Kurczaba Architecture [images]- Calgary Herald (Canada)

Cities agree it takes a Village: ...comparing Calgary with San Diego...specifically at how the two areas compare as a place to live...the two East Villages are eerily similar, something that will continue in the future... By Richard White/Riddell Kurczaba Architecture [images]- Calgary Herald (Canada)

Tale of two capitals: New Delhi and Canberra echo each other in appearance. Long distances, broad roads radiating out of circles, gardens everywhere, striking architecture...Delhi was developed with an imperial vision. Canberra in its early days was described as "several suburbs in search of a city." -- Walter Burley Griffin; Edward Lutyens - The Hindu (India)

Nostalgia Wrapped In Steel: ...completion of HL23...a milestone in the career of one of the country's most underachieving talents...building is as sleek and muscular as an Italian sports car...allusions to a mobile culture suggest a version of the American dream straight out of the Eisenhower era...makes you wonder where that dream went wrong. By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Neil Denari [images]- New York Times

Architect defends 'reviled' Norwich building: An office block [Sovereign House] often considered one of the ugliest in the city has found an unlikely defender in the form of one of the city's award-winning architects..."It's not just the pedigree or the fact that it's an interesting work of architecture...but more importantly, nobody has thought properly about how it could be reused..." -- Alan Cooke Associates (1968); Anthony Hudson/Hudson Architects - Norwich Evening News (UK)

Sticks and stones: can architects be built in the classroom? The government wants your advice on rebuilding the cultural curriculum...one of the big problems in Britain...is that architecture isn't taught to children...how can we nurture not just the Frank Lloyd Wrights of the future but a public who will push these budding architects, rather than sniping from the sidelines that all modern buildings are terrible? By Jonathan Glancey - Guardian (UK)

Architect of change: To C.N. Raghavendran, architecture is about preserving that critical link between the built and the natural environment...the Padma Shri awardee...has navigated the complexities of massive urban projects for over four decades...has pushed his agenda of introducing innovative building technology and climate responsive designs..."architecture is about integration." -- CRN (C.R. Narayana Rao) [images]- The Hindu (India)

Nuclear waste: Keep out -- for 100,000 years: Few architects have to design anything to last more than 100 years, so how do you build a nuclear waste facility to last for millennia? And what sign do you put on the door? By Steve Rose - Guardian (UK)

Nuclear bunker looks like a... nuclear bunker, say architects: Ukraine has secured \$785 million...towards the construction of a vast steel shell to seal the Chernobyl nuclear reactor...an architect would have designed something so complicated it would have leaked..."It's very sensible of them not to waste money on architects' fees"... "what's missing is the human scale, innovative shaping and symbolism that an architect's involvement would contribute." -- Bill Gething/Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios; Iain Macdonald/YRM- BD/Building Design (UK)

'Frank' Talk About Cloud Architecture: By embracing cloud computing, companies benefit from an application architecture that harnesses the potential of new capabilities like a Frank Gehry while delivering the efficiency and elegance of a Frank Lloyd Wright...Gehry has established an entirely new paradigm for architecture... - TechNewsWorld

University of Idaho Students on Cutting Edge of Green Building Design: ...grand opening of their brand new design and research center in Boise...The Integrated Design Lab...is in the business of energy efficiency....Since IDL works with architectural firms and contractors, the students are getting a leg up on the possibility of future employment by meeting many influential players. - KTRV-TV (Idaho)

Scottish shortlist for 2011 RIBA Awards: 17 finalists are contenders for Stirling Prize -- Page Park Architects; RMJM; Simon Winstanley Architects; Edward Cullinan Architects; Austin-Smith Lord; Dualchas Building Design; HAA Design; Malcolm Fraser Architects; Elder & Cannon; Richard Murphy Architects; Reiach & Hall Architects; Gokay Deveci; Oliver Chapman Architects; Anderson Bell & Christie; W T Architecture - BD/Building Design (UK)

National Mayors Summit on City Design: Brings Together Mayors, Obama Cabinet Members, Top Design Professionals, and Special Guests To Examine the State of U.S. Cities and the Power of Arts & Design; Chicago, April 27-29 - Mayors' Institute on City Design (MICD)

Call for entries: Archi-World Academy Awards: Energy saving projects and ideas for the future of architecture and

urbanism...the largest worldwide contest for the architects of tomorrow in cooperation with Messe München (BAU 2011 & BAU 2013); deadline: September 30, 2012- ArchiWorld



Richard Meier & Partners: W Retreat Kanai, Riviera Maya, Mexico

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